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Message Text

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10
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 PRS-01 H-02 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 RSC-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 SAB-01 SAM-01 /100 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/P:GFSHERMAN
APPROVED BY NEA/P:GFSHERMAN
S/PRS - MR. KING (INFO)
H - MISS FOLGER
IO/P - MR. BLACHLY
EUR/P - MR. JERABEK
NEA/ARN - MR. KORN
AF/P - MRS. RUSSELL
---------- 034291
R 120015Z DEC 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMCONSUL DHAHRAN
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
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AMEMBASSY SANAA
USINT BAGHDAD

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR
SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING

GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS FROM DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S PRESS BRIEFING DECEMBER 11, 1974:

QUOTE: PAUL, I THINK I KNOW WHAT YOUR ANSWER IS GOING TO BE, BUT JUST FOR THE RECORD, HAS THE UNITED STATES APPROVED THE SALE OF 48 F-15S TO ISRAEL?

A. WELL, AS YOU JUDGED, MY ANSWER IS GOING TO BE THAT WE DO NOT DISCUSS THE SPECIFICS OF OUR ARMS RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES.

Q. GENERALLY, THEN, HAVE WE APPROVED THE SALE OF SOME AIRCRAFT TO ISRAEL?

A. I AM JUST NOT GOING TO COMMENT ON THE SPECIFICS OF OUR ARMS RELATIONSHIP.

Q. IF YOU CAN'T COMMENT ON THE RELATIONSHIP OF SUPPLYING ARMS TO ISRAEL, CAN YOU COMMENT ON THE CURRENT MILITARY BALANCE IN THE MIDDLE EAST? DOES ISRAEL REQUIRE ANY NEW

U.S. WEAPONS IN YOUR VIEW?

A. WELL, WE HAVE HAD AND CONTINUE TO HAVE AN ONGOING RELATIONSHIP IN THIS FIELD WITH ISRAEL. AND THAT IS A CONTINUING PROCESS.

Q. YOU WON'T COMMENT ON THE CURRENT BALANCE?
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A. NO.

Q. DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENT ON SENATOR FULBRIGHT'S SPEECH TODAY IN WHICH HE CALLS FOR IMMEDIATE ISRAELI NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE PLO?

A. NO. END QUOTE. INGERSOLL

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